

REMARKS

Claims 1-39 and 44-52 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 36 and 44-46 have been amended, and claims 40-43 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter found therein. The specification has been amended to correct minor informalities found therein. No new matter has been added.

Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on April 6, 2001. The form PTO-1449 accompanying the IDS identified nine references. A copy of the PTO-1449 and a copy of the date-stamped receipt showing receipt by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office are attached. It is respectfully requested that the enclosed form PTO-1449 be initialed and returned to the Applicants showing consideration of the references by the Examiner.

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 36-38, 40, and 44-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Okada et al. (Okada), U.S. Patent No. 6,266,483. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants' invention of claim 36 calls for an image recorder comprising a first receiver that receives data of a visual broadcast program; a second receiver that receives a digital image data taken by a digital camera; a storage capable of storing both the data of visual broadcast program and the digital image data; a recording circuit capable of recording both the data of visual broadcast program and the digital image data into the storage; and a controller that controls one of the recording circuit such that the recording circuit does not execute the recording process to the digital image data, and the second receiver such that the second receiver does not execute the receiving process to the digital image data while executing recording process to the visual broadcast program. Okada fails to disclose these features.

Applicants' invention of claim 44 calls for an image recorder comprising a first receiver that receives data of a visual broadcast program; a second receiver that receives a

digital image data taken by a digital camera; a storage that stores both the data of visual broadcast program and the digital image data; a playback that plays back the data in the storage; and a controller that controls one of the playback circuit such that the playback circuit does not execute the playback process to the digital image data, and the second receiver such that the second receiver does not execute receiving process to the digital image data while executing playback process to the visual broadcast program. Okada fails to disclose these features.

Applicants' invention of claim 45 calls for an image recorder, comprising a first receiver that receives data of a visual broadcast program; a second receiver that receives a digital still image data taken by a digital still camera; a storage that stores both the data of visual broadcast program and the digital still image data; a playback that plays back the data in the storage; and a plurality of manual operation members, wherein the playback of the still image and the playback of the visual broadcast program are started by an operation of one of the plurality of manual operation members. Okada fails to disclose these features.

Applicants' invention of claim 46 calls for an image recorder comprising a first receiver that receives data of a visual broadcast program; a second receiver that receives a digital still image data taken by a digital still camera; a storage capable of storing both the data of visual broadcast program and the digital still image data; a recording circuit capable of recording both the data of visual broadcast program and the digital still image data into the storage; and a plurality of manual operation members, wherein the playback of the still image and the playback of the visual broadcast program are started by an operation of one of the plurality of manual operation members. Okada fails to disclose these features.

Contrary to the Office Action's assertion, Okada does not disclose an image recorder that corresponds to Applicants' image recorder as recited in the claims. What Okada does describe is a DVD-RAM, a DVD recorder, and a DVD player (col. 6, lines 38-41). The

DVD-RAM described by Okada records and manages integrally AV data and AV streams of many different kinds of formats on a single disk (col. 6, lines 43-45). As Okada describes, this allows it to record on a single disk AV streams of different formats including a terrestrial broadcasting TV program, a digital broadcasting TV program transmitted in the MPEG transport stream format, a video stream taken by a digital video camera, a still picture taken by a digital still camera, and video data coded in the MPEG program stream (col. 6, lines 46-52). Further, the data recorded in the DVD-RAM can be played in a given sequence (col. 6, lines 52-53). The DVD-RAM is also provided with management information for managing the AV streams without depending on the types of formats of the AV data or AV streams (col. 6, lines 53-57).

The player model of Okada includes a digital interface 1704 that supplies the AV stream to external equipment (col. 15, lines 50-52). The data recorded on the optical disk 100 is read by the pickup 1701, goes through the ECC processor 1702, and is stored in the track buffer 1703 (col. 15, lines 38-40). The data stored in the track buffer 1703 is then entered into one of the decoders 1705, 1706, 1707, and 1708, and then decoded to be outputted therefrom (col. 15, lines 40-43). In this switching operation, the controller 1711 checks the read data and sees the type information of the cell information in the PGC information providing the playback sequence according to the method described earlier (col. 15, lines 43-46).

Accordingly, the visual broadcast program and digital image data are stored in a single optical disk 100 (Figs. 9A-9B and Fig. 18).

However, the optical disk 100 and the track buffer 1703 are not a recording circuit capable of recording both the data of visual broadcast program and the digital image data into the storage, as recited in claims 36 and 46.

As Okada also describes that the DVD recorder includes a digital tuner 1905 and a decoder 1908 (col. 16 and Fig. 18). The decoder 1908 includes the decoders 1705, 1706, 1707, and 1708 as shown in Fig. 18 (col. 16, lines 15-16). However, the decoder 1908 decodes the AV streams and is not a second receiver (col. 16, lines 14-15). The AV streams are stored on the optical disk 100. Accordingly, the decoder 1908 does not correspond to Applicants' second receiver that receives a digital image data taken by a digital camera. The decoder 1908 described by Okada simply decodes the data stored on the optical disk 100.

The DVD recorder described by Okada, temporarily stores the data that is to be written in the track buffer 1910 (col. 16, lines 17-19). The drive 1911 writes the data that is temporarily stored on the track buffer 1910 on the DVD-RAM 100 (col. 16, lines 16-19). As Okada describes, the system controller 1902 issues a recording request to the drive 1911, so that the drive 1911 can take the data stored in the track buffer 1910 and record this information on the DVD-RAM disk 100 (col. 16, lines 42-45). At this time, the system controller 1902 instructs the drive 1911 where to store the information on the disk 100 according to the allocation information of the file system (col. 16, lines 46-48).

Thus, the controller described by Okada does not control the recording circuit such that the recording circuit does not execute the recording process to the digital image data, or control the second receiver such that the second receiver does not execute the receiving process to the digital image data while executing recording process to the visual broadcast program.

Furthermore, the playback of the still image and the playback of the visual broadcast program are not started by an operation of one of the plurality of manual operation members, as recited in claims 45 and 46.

Accordingly, Okada does not literally disclose each and every feature of Applicants' claimed invention as recited in claims 36, 44, 45, and 46, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C.

§102 is inappropriate. Further, for the reasons discussed, Okada does not suggest the features as recited in claims 36, 44, 45, and 46.

Because Okada does not anticipate or suggest the features of claim 36, Okada cannot possibly anticipate or suggest the subject matter of claims 37 and 38, which depend from claim 36, for the reasons discussed with respect to claim 36 and for the additional features recited therein. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

With respect to claims 40-43, the cancellation of these claims makes the 102 rejection moot.

On page 5 of the Office Action, claims 41 and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Okada. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Okada fails to overcome its own deficiencies as applied to claim 46 for at least the reasons discussed above.

Because Okada does not disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claim 46, Okada cannot possibly render obvious claim 47, which depends from claim 46, for that reason and for the additional features recited. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn. As discussed above, claim 41 has been canceled. Thus, the §103 rejection of claim 41 is moot.

On page 5 of the Office Action, claims 39, 42, and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Okada in view of Browne, WO 92/22983. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to claim 39, Browne fails to overcome the deficiencies of Okada as applied to claim 36 for at least the reasons discussed above. With respect to claims 42 and 43, the cancellation of these claims makes the 103 rejection moot.

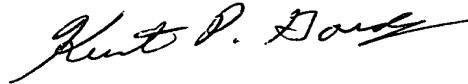
Because neither of the applied references, nor the combination thereof, disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claim 36, the alleged combination cannot possibly render

obvious claim 39, which depends from claim 36, for that reason and for the additional features recited. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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